

Sister Virginia Hogan directs choir.

Choir Festival March 6

A choir drawn from more than 35 churches, Catholic and otherwise, will sing Mozart's Solemn Vespers at 8 p.m. Sunday, March 6, in St. Thomas More Church, 2617 East Ave. The 75 choristers and four soloists will be accompanied by a chamber orchestra formed for the occasion.

The performance, directed by Sister Virginia Hogan, SSJ, constitutes the third annual Diocesan Choir Festival, organized by the Music Commission of the Office of Liturgy. The \$2 donation asked will be used toward commissioning a work by an American church music composer.

Soloists will be St. Joseph Sisters Barbara Staropoli and Mary Ellen Campbell; Eugene Impiccini and Steve Immerman.

DPC Members On Retreat

The 50 members of the Diocesan Pastoral Council will be participating in a retreat at Becket Hall this weekend, Feb. 25 and 26. The retreat will give members an opportunity to "share who Christ is in our lives," according to Sister Mary Ann Binsack, executive secretary. Retreat leader will be Sister Judy McKay, SSJ.

Events will get underway at 7:30 p.m. Friday evening, and continue from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, concluding with Mass.

SEMINARY BASKETBALL
Students from Wadhams Seminary College in Ogdensburg and St. Bernard's Seminary will compete in basketball at 8 p.m. Sat., Feb. 26 at St. Charles Borromeo auditorium in Rochester.

New Rite of Penance Becomes Mandatory

The American Bishops have set this Sunday, the First Sunday of Lent, Feb. 27 as the official date for the mandatory implementation of the new Rite of Penance in this country. This rite, which was promulgated by the Congregation for Divine Worship in 1973, has been used on a provisional basis for about a year.

three forms: the rite for the reconciliation of individual penitents, the communal rite for reconciliation with individual confession and absolution and the communal rite for reconciliation with general confession and absolution.

The new Penance Rite — also referred to as the Rite of Reconciliation — has been revised in the light of Vatican Council II to reflect more fully the depth of God's mercy and forgiveness, and the role of the Christian community in the reconciliation of penitents. The rite includes

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan issued guidelines last Lent on the implementation of the Penance Rite in the Diocese of Rochester. These guidelines are found in the diocesan Guidelines and Policies Handbook. Bishop Hogan has also encouraged parishes to use the rite since Easter 1976, and to provide adequate catechetical programs in the new rite for all their parishioners.

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ALL IN THE FAMILY



Sarah Child

is and is going to take it when I'm not looking."

Mostly, however, they will eat. They will consume food with the intensity and endurance that only three healthy kids, frustrated by lack of extensive outdoor activity and bored by TV, can have.

They will ingest countless bowls of cereals, make innumerable peanut butter and jelly sandwiches (dripping jelly down the cupboard fronts in the process) and rid the house of all fruit, snack food and dessert items.

At that point they will want to "make something." The odor of scorched popcorn will fill the air and when the kettle has been washed, dried and put away half-clean, it will be time for cookie baking. The chocolate chips will be mixed up and the batter stored in the refrigerator whereupon there will be much opening and closing of the door as uncooked dough, snatched between commercials, is at least as delightful as the finished product.

In between all this, I will lose my temper countless times and then conscience-stricken will make amends by promising some outing that is neither feasible nor attractive to all three at the same time. Their father will come home from work each night to bedlam or stony silence.

At week's end we will all sigh in relief. And next June when temperatures spurt into the middle 80s they will be confined to desks and stuffy classrooms, all of us wishing they could be outside where they belong.

LENTEN SERIES

Renewal movements in the church will be discussed in a Lenten series planned by the adult education committee of Guardian Angels parish. Father Eugene Weis will open the series at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27, tracing "renewal" history and describing some popular programs. Topics during March will include the Charismatic Movement, Cursillo and Marriage Encounter.

Monday 8 a.m. Ahead of us is a week euphemistically known as spring recess. Outside the weather has changed from the relative balminess of 40 degrees to a frigid 26. The nine-year-old already has been up for an hour and at the moment is in the snow-covered back yard with the puppy. They are dispensing stale crackers over the tundra-like surface for our feathered friends. There will be a few left for the birds. The dog keeps eating them as quickly as his partner scatters them.

The cracker caper is just the first of many make work activities the week of enforced leisure will require.

Ah, the wisdom of administrators to schedule a week off when sub-freezing temperatures manage to dampen the enthusiasm of all but skiers.


We have tried to plan the week. Our trio will begin with their bedrooms and after they have located their beds and rearranged the clutter to their parents' satisfaction there will be a few other light chores. Straighten up the basement is next on the list. The front hall closet where boots, shoes and tote bags are hastily flung is also in their province.

Birthday events for the oldest will fill one day. There's a Disney movie at one of the malls they've been promised as another treat and hopefully the swim club has rearranged its schedule for the week to include some afternoon open swims.

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